



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

11 JANUARY 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – Man Indicted After Heroin Wrapped in Christmas-Themed Paper Found in Luggage

(U) A federal grand jury yesterday indicted James Mitchell, 25, on one count of possession with intent to distribute heroin after he attempted to smuggle the drug aboard a Frontier Airlines flight to Cincinnati. If convicted, Mitchell faces up to life in federal prison. Mitchell was arrested 21 December, more than a week after authorities discovered 13 pounds of heroin — estimated to have a street value of \$2.1 million — after Mitchell checked in for his 10 December flight. While inspecting his luggage, security workers found six packages of a suspicious gray brittle concrete-like substance.

SOURCE: 11 January 2017, [LA Times](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Illinois – St. Jude Releases Cyber Updates for Heart Devices after US Probe

(U) Chicago - Abbott Laboratories moved to protect patients with its St. Jude heart implants against possible cyber-attacks, releasing a software patch on Monday that the firm said will reduce the chance of them being hacked. The company disclosed the moves some five months after the US government launched a probe into claims the devices were vulnerable to potentially life-threatening hacks that could cause implanted devices to pace at potentially dangerous rates or cause them to fail by draining their batteries. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) said that St. Jude's software update addresses some, but not all, known cyber security problems in its heart devices.

SOURCE: 9 January 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) New York – Man Faces Trial for Helping College Student Join ISIL

(U) Manhattan – An Arizona man is set to face charges that he provided support to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) by helping a New York City college student travel to Syria, where he died fighting for the militant group. Opening statements were expected yesterday in Manhattan federal court in the case of Ahmed Mohammed El Gammal, 44, who was arrested in 2015 and charged with providing material support to a foreign extremist organization. El Gammal, who has pleaded not guilty, is one of more than 100 people to face US charges since 2014 in cases related to ISIL.

SOURCE: 10 January 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Syria – US Commandos Take Out ISIL Leader

(U) Zawr – Abu Anas al-Iraqi, said to be the finance chief of ISIL, was killed Sunday in an operation in Syria led by US special operations. Though al-Iraqi is not a well-known figure his name occasionally surfaced in social media as well as in captured ISIL documents referring to him as a leader, and intelligence indicated he was a member of the ISIL ruling council.

SOURCE: 10 January 2017, [ABC News](#)

(U) Ukraine – Power Cut Claimed to Be Cyber-Attack

(U) Kiev - A power cut that hit part of the Ukrainian capital Kiev in December 2016 has been judged a cyber-attack by researchers investigating the incident. The blackout lasted just over an hour and started just before midnight on 17 December. The cyber-security company Information Systems Security Partners has linked the incident to a hack and blackout in 2015 that affected 225,000. It also said a series of other recent attacks in Ukraine were connected. The 2016 power cut had amounted to a loss of about one-fifth of Kiev's power consumption at that time of night, national energy company Ukrenergo said at the time. It affected the Pivnichna substation outside the capital, and left people in part of the city and a surrounding area without electricity until shortly after 01:00. The attack took place almost exactly one year after a much larger hack on a regional electricity distribution company, which was later blamed on the Russian security services.

SOURCE: 11 January 2017, [BBC](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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